METHOD FOR PRESERVING WIRELESS RESOURCES IN A WIRELESS LOCAL AREA NETWORK

Abstract of the Disclosure

5   In one embodiment of the present invention, an access point (111) receives a multicast packet intended for a particular multicast group. Upon receipt, the access point only rebroadcast the multicast packet over a wireless segment if it determines that there is at least one wireless subscriber unit (131) belonging to the particular multicast group and associated with the access point that did not

10   originate the multicast packet. Optionally, if the multicast packet signals an automatic rebroadcast of the multicast packet over the wireless segment, the access point automatically rebroadcasts the multicast packet without determining whether there is at least one wireless subscriber unit belonging to the particular multicast group and associated with the access point that did not originate the

15   multicast packet.